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# WHEN THRILLS KILL...

**“At the moment, there is no federal oversight of theme parks so there is no way to investigate accidents or share information about malfunctions in theme parks throughout the country.”**

*New York Times* editorial, June 17, 2001

**“These thrill rides are supposed to give people the illusion of danger, not actually put people at risk.”**

**Ann Brown, Chair, Consumer Product Safety Commission, *Washington Post*, June 18, 2001, p. A3**

Dear Colleague:

The amusement park industry is once again attempting to defend the indefensible. It is indefensible that practically the only consumer products enjoying a special exemption from the Consumer Product Safety Act are thrill rides on which children travel at speeds nearing 100 miles per hour with gravitational forces approximating what is experienced by Space Shuttle astronauts on takeoff. **Injuries on amusement park rides increased 95 percent over the last four years. Per mile, people are dying on roller coasters at a rate greater than that for airplanes, trains, and busses - and those industries have significant federal oversight and investigations in order to minimize accidents.** However, the amusement park industry denies that any problem exists.

**WE CAN REDUCE THESE ACCIDENTS AND DEATHS.** Please support H.R. 1488, The Amusement Park Ride Safety Act, to give the Consumer Products Safety Commission the authority it needs to make rides safer. Call David Moulton at 225-2836 or Keith Tobias at 225-5341 to join this effort.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Markey

Constance A. Morella